BAFFLING Episodes Of
STRANGE
SUSPENSE STORIES
№30
STRANGE SUSPENSE STORIES
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
10¢
A CHARLTON PUBLICATION
OH... NO!

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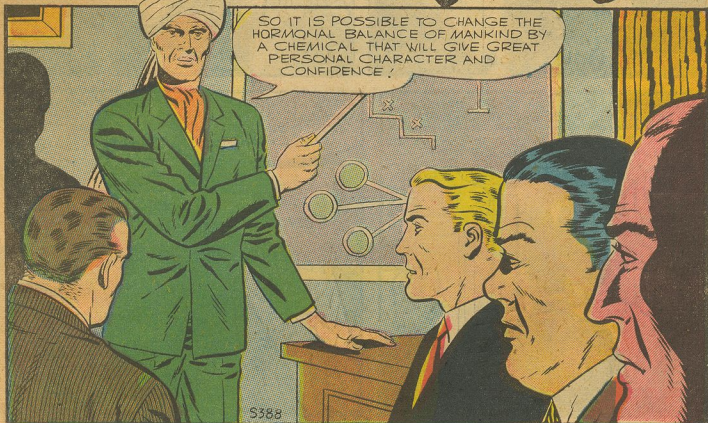
TRUTH IS THE GREATEST OF ALL POWERS -- YET HOW COULD IT AFFECT YOU IF YOU COULD USE IT AS A WEAPON ? WHAT WOULD THE RESULTS BE ON MODERN SOCIETY ? TO JOHN DAWSON THEY WERE DEVASTATING WHEN HE USED IT TO ENTER...

# The WORLD of Mister San

SO IT IS POSSIBLE TO CHANGE THE HORMONAL BALANCE OF MANKIND BY A CHEMICAL THAT WILL GIVE GREAT PERSONAL CHARACTER AND CONFIDENCE!

S388

THE MEMBERS OF THE SCIENCE CLUB STIRRED UNEASILY! MISTER KRISHNA SAN COULD HAVE BEEN A CHARLATAN -- BUT HE WAS MAKING SENSE...

MANY MYSTICAL POWERS HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO INDIAN FAKIRS! ACTUALLY, THESE POWERS ARE REAL! THEY ARE INTENSIFIED POWERS OF WILL AND INTELLECT CULTIVATED DELIBERATELY FROM BIRTH!

THEN WHY NOT TAKE OUR THEORY A STEP FURTHER? IF WE COULD DEVELOP INSTANT FORESIGHT! IF WE COULD POSSESS THE GREAT SWORD OF TRUTH, WOULD WE NOT BE SUPERMEN?
YES... IF!

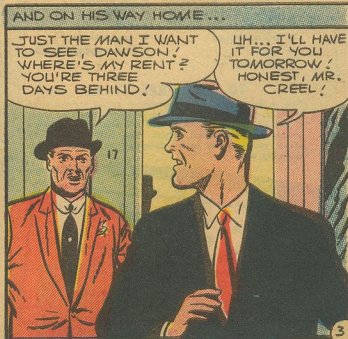
IN INDIA CERTAIN MEN DEDICATE THEIR LIVES TO ATTAIN THESE POWERS! LET US SAY IF THEY WERE TO BE CONTAINED IN THIS BOTTLE-- WOULD NOT OUR DESTINIES BE GREAT?

AND SO THE INDIAN FAKIR CONTINUED HIS LECTURE! AND WHEN IT ENDED...
WHAT A LOT OF BALONEY! HE'D HAVE US BELIEVE WE COULD CHANGE THE WORLD BY DRINKING HIS 'MAGIC' FLUID!
BUT... SUPPOSE HE WAS RIGHT?

LOOK, DAWSON! IF THE GUY WAS RIGHT, WHY DOESN'T HE DRINK IT HIMSELF? DON'T BE A NITWIT! HE'S A CHARLATAN!
I'M SORRY, BILL -- I THOUGHT...

YOU THOUGHT! THAT'S THE TROUBLE WITH YOU, DAWSON! YOU DON'T THINK! DON'T EVER VOLUNTEER TO BRING US ANOTHER CHARACTER LIKE THIS! I'LL CHOOSE MY OWN LECTURERS AFTER THIS!
BUT I DIDN'T KNOW WHO WAS COMING...

BUT DAWSON, AS USUAL, WAS TOO LATE...
THEY HOLD ME RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS EVENING'S FIASCO! WHY DON'T I EVER GET ANY RESPECT?
I SEE YOU ARE IN TROUBLE, MR. DAWSON...

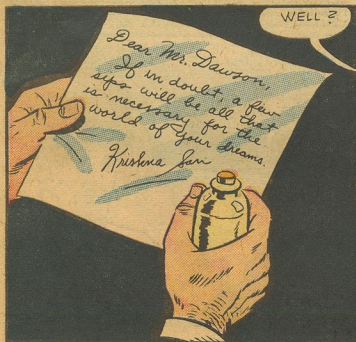
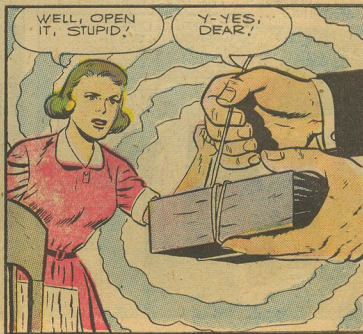
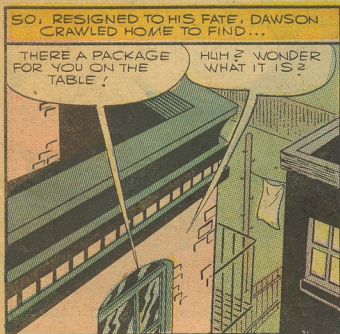
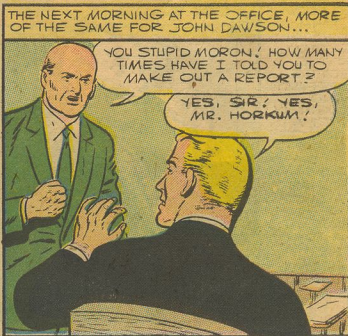
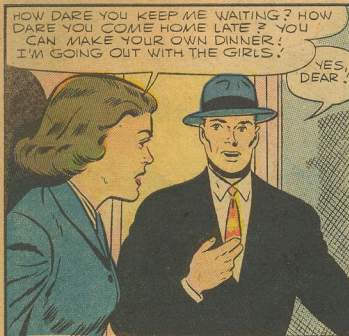
JOHN DAWSON HURRIED OUT OF THE HALL AND RAN TO THE SUBWAY! HIS WIFE WOULD YELL AT HIM ALL NIGHT IF HE GOT HOME LATE! YET, HE COULDN'T HELP THINKING...

AUTOMATIC FIRING BB MACHINE GUN
$1

HOW DARE YOU KEEP ME WAITING? HOW DARE YOU COME HOME LATE? YOU CAN MAKE YOUR OWN DINNER! I'M GOING OUT WITH THE GIRLS!
YES, DEAR!

THE NEXT MORNING AT THE OFFICE, MORE OF THE SAME FOR JOHN DAWSON...
YOU STUPID MORON! HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU TO MAKE OUT A REPORT?
YES, SIR! YES, MR. HORKUM!

SO, RESIGNED TO HIS FATE, DAWSON CRAWLED HOME TO FIND...
THERE A PACKAGE FOR YOU ON THE TABLE!
HUH? WONDER WHAT IT IS?

WELL, OPEN IT, STUPID!
Y-YES, DEAR!

WELL?
Dear Mr. Dawson,
If in doubt, a few sips will be all that is necessary for the world of your dreams.
Krishna San

IT'S--UH--IT'S NOTHING, DEAR! I'M NOT HUNGRY TONIGHT--THINK I'LL GO LIE DOWN!
HMPF... BUT MIND YOU TAKE THE GAR-BAGE OUT TONIGHT! YOU AND YOUR PACKAGES!

ALONE IN HIS ROOM, JOHN DAWSON GAZED AT THE BOTTLE HOPEFULLY AND LONGINGLY! WITH A COURAGE BORN OUT OF FRUSTRATION AND FATALISM, HE BROUGHT IT TO HIS LIPS AND...

YOU DON'T HAVE TO! JUST MAKE CERTAIN ALL THESE THINGS ARE FIXED IN TWO DAYS -- OR I'LL SUE!
UH -- NO NEED FOR THAT, MR. DAWSON -- I'LL -- ATTEND TO IT RIGHT AWAY!

THAT NEXT MORNING AT HIS OFFICE, JOHN DAWSON WAS IN HIS GLORY...
WHAT'S THE IDEA OF PUTTING YOUR HAT ON MY RACK? TAKE IT OFF OR I'LL...
YOU'LL WHAT?

THE WORLD FELL APART FOR JOHN DAWSON'S ADVERSARY! SECONDS LATER..
I'VE BEEN WANTING TO DO THIS FOR YEARS! FROM NOW ON KEEP QUIET AND LISTEN TO ME -- OR ELSE!
OKAY, JOHN! YOU DON'T HAVE TO GET SORE ABOUT IT!

AND JUST THEN, JOHN'S BOSS WALKED IN...
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS OUTRAGE, JOHN?
HELLO, STINKY!
YOU-- CALLED ME... STINKY!
THAT'S RIGHT! I LOOKED UP YOUR COLLEGE PALS AND GOT THE LOW-DOWN ON YOU! INSIDE!

I... THAT IS... OOFF!
FOR YEARS I'VE TAKEN ALL THE GARBAGE YOU'VE THROWN AT ME! FOR YEARS I'VE WATCHED YOU GIVE OUT PROMOTIONS TO OTHERS FOR THE WORK I'VE DONE! SO IT'S EITHER YOU TAKE ME IN AS A PARTNER. OR I QUIT!

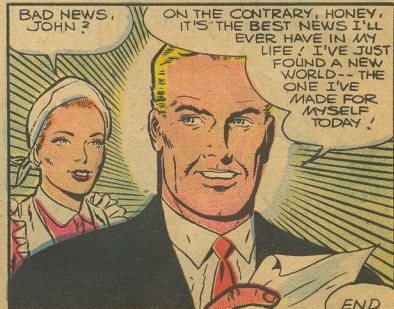
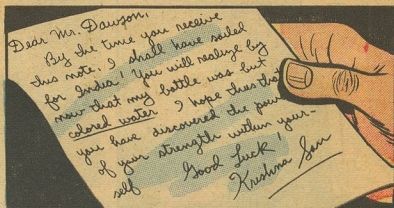
I'LL CALL THE POLICE! I'LL HAVE YOU THROWN OUT OF HERE! I'LL...
TCH...TCH! TEMPER! YOU NEED ME! I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN GET YOU OUT OF YOUR JAM! YOUR BUSINESS IS FALLING OFF!

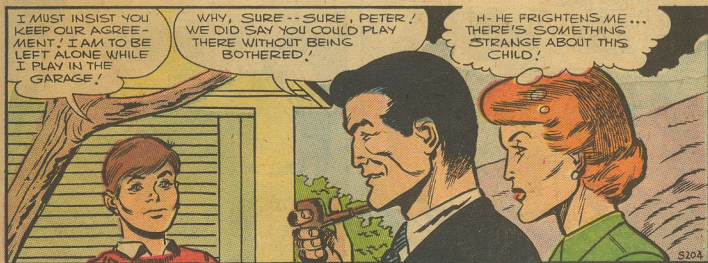
UH-- HOW DO YOU KNOW?
I CHECKED THE BOOKS A FEW DAYS AGO! DO I GET MY PARTNERSHIP-- OR DO I GO TO YOUR COMPETITORS?

MY BOY, YOU'VE COME INTO YOUR OWN! I ALWAYS SAID JOHN DAWSON WOULD BE A BUSINESS LEADER!
HMM... I QUITE AGREE! I'LL START MY NEW JOB TOMORROW!

BUT WHEN HE ARRIVED HOME, HE FOUND A LETTER WAITING FOR HIM...
I WAS CLEANING YOUR ROOM, DEAR--AND I DROPPED THAT BOTTLE OF YOURS!
GOOD HEAVENS, THIS NOTE! MAYBE IT'S FROM KRISHNA SAN! I'VE GOT TO FIND HIM!

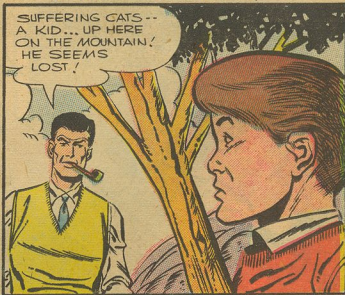
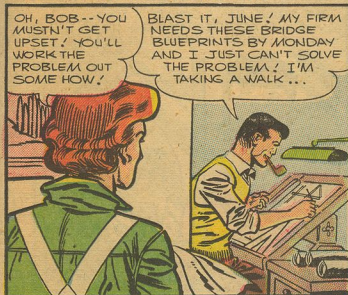
Dear Mr. Dawson,
By the time you receive this note, I shall have sailed for India! You will realize by now that my bottle was but colored water. I hope thus that you have discovered the power of your strength within yourself.
Good Luck!
Krishna San

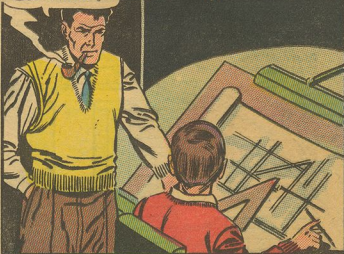
BAD NEWS, JOHN?
ON THE CONTRARY, HONEY, IT'S THE BEST NEWS I'LL EVER HAVE IN MY LIFE! I'VE JUST FOUND A NEW WORLD-- THE ONE I'VE MADE FOR MYSELF TODAY!
END

HE WAS BUT A SMALL BOY... HARDLY OF SCHOOL AGE! YET, HE CARRIED HIMSELF WITH AN AIR OF WORLDLY WISDOM! WHO WAS HE REALLY? WHAT WAS THE STRANGE SECRET OF THE...

# LOST CHILD

IT BEGAN ON BOB TRAVER'S MOUNTAIN RANCH ON A SATURDAY AFTERNOON...

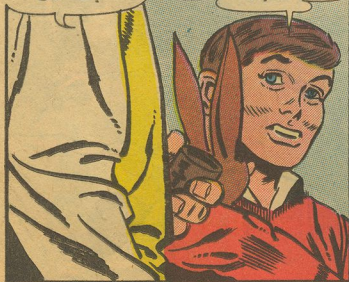
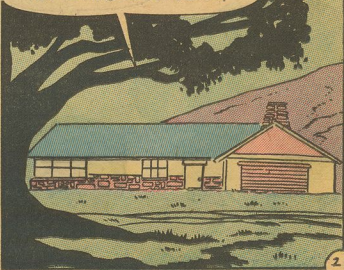
OH, BOB--YOU MUSTN'T GET UPSET! YOU'LL WORK THE PROBLEM OUT SOME HOW!

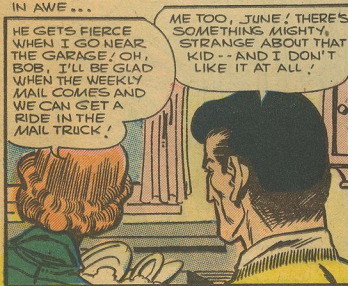
BLAST IT, JUNE! MY FIRM NEEDS THESE BRIDGE BLUEPRINTS BY MONDAY AND I JUST CAN'T SOLVE THE PROBLEM! I'M TAKING A WALK...

BOB TOOK HIS WALK--AND IT WAS THEN THAT HE MET--THE CHILD...

SHORTLY...
BOB, THAT POOR CHILD MUST BE FRIGHTENED TO DEATH...HE SEEMS AFRAID TO SMILE! YOU'D BETTER NOTIFY THE AUTHORITIES RIGHT AWAY! HIS PARENTS MUST BE LOCATED!
RIGHT... HEY, HE'S MONKEYING AROUND WITH MY BLUEPRINTS!

WHOA... FELLA! THAT'S IMPORTANT STUFF! CAN'T PLAY AROUND WITH BRIDGE BLUE-PRINTS OR I'LL GET FIRED!
PERHAPS NOT!

SUDDENLY, TRAVER'S EYES STARED IN DIS-BELIEF AS...
THE BLUE PRINT! THE PROBLEM IS SOLVED-- SIX TWO TON GIRDERS UNDER THE SUPERSTRUCTURE WILL GIVE ME THE SUPPORT I NEED!

JUNE, THAT CHILD... HE WAS DOODLING WITH MY BLUE-PRINTS AND HE SOLVED THE PROBLEM! COULD A CHILD ACCIDENTLY DO SUCH A THING!
I - I DON'T KNOW, BOB!

SON, WHAT DID YOU DO AT MY DRAWING BOARD?
I WAS JUST PLAYING! THIS CREATURE--I LIKE IT! MAY I HAVE IT?

OF COURSE YOU CAN, PETER! IT'S YOURS AS A GIFT! I'LL GET CLEANED UP AND THEN WE'LL DRIVE TO THE VILLAGE AND TRY TO FIND YOUR PEOPLE!
2

BUT A MOMENT LATER...
GREAT GOSH! WHAT HAPPENED? MY CAR---
I DO NOT KNOW!
I SHOULD LIKE TO USE YOUR DWELLING HERE AS A PLACE TO PLAY! I SHOULD LIKE TO BE LEFT ALONE THERE!
WHAT? YOU'RE THE CRAZIEST KID I EVER SAW! DO YOU REALIZE WE'RE STRANDED UP HERE IN THE MOUNTAINS WITHOUT A CAR? GO AHEAD, USE THE GARAGE!

THUSLY, DID THE STRANGE CHILD JOIN THE HOUSEHOLD OF BOB AND JUNE TRAVERS! FOR TWO DAYS THEY STUDIED HIS ACTIONS IN AWE...
HE GETS FIERCE WHEN I GO NEAR THE GARAGE! OH, BOB, I'LL BE GLAD WHEN THE WEEKLY MAIL COMES AND WE CAN GET A RIDE IN THE MAIL TRUCK!
ME TOO, JUNE! THERE'S SOMETHING MIGHTY STRANGE ABOUT THAT KID--AND I DON'T LIKE IT AT ALL!

ANOTHER DAY PASSES...AND THE TENSION GROWS AS...
JUNE, THAT KID! HE'S SNEAKED OUT INTO THE GARAGE! HE'S PLAYING OUT THERE AND IT'S AFTER MIDNIGHT--I'M PUTTING A STOP TO THIS NONSENSE RIGHT NOW!

PETER! COME INTO THE HOUSE... WHA!
SIR, BE CAREFUL!

THEN, AS BOB TRAVERS WATCHED STUNNED..
I MUST HAVE PRIVACY--PLEASE, LEAVE ME ALONE...
G-GOOD GRIEF! THAT MOTOR MUST WEIGH OVER FIVE HUNDRED POUNDS!

AND NOW, THE COUPLE ARE FULLY AWARE THAT THE CHILD THEY FOUND IS NOT AN ORDINARY ONE...

JUNE, I DON'T MIND TELLING YOU I'M FRIGHTENED! WHAT KIND OF A FREAK HAVE WE FOUND? HE HAS THE STRENGTH OF TEN MEN... SOLVES ENGINEERING PROBLEMS AT A GLANCE...
THE ONLY NATURAL EMOTION HE'S SHOWN IS WITH THAT STUFFED RABBIT!

HE'S BUILDING SOMETHING STRANGE IN THERE! I'LL SURE BE GLAD WHEN THE MAIL TRUCK COMES--GREAT CAESAR!
BOB!

OHHH!

LOOK, BOB--SOMETHING'S FALLING FROM THE SKY!
YES, HE WASN'T ORDINARY... BECAUSE HE WASN'T HUMAN, JUNE! HE WAS LOST ALL RIGHT--LOST FROM ANOTHER PLANET!

DARLING, BE CARE-FUL!

A-A METEORITE--IN THE FORM OF THE STUFFED RABBIT WE GAVE HIM!
H-HE WAS THANKING US--THANKING US IN THE ONLY WAY HE KNEW HOW!
END

# "Diving Danger"

Captain Henry Reid, of the tugboat MARIE, wasn't the type of man to take no for an answer. He hadn't forgotten that Bill Merkl was under obligation to him.

"I know you have given up deep sea diving, Bill," he said. "But do this one job for me. Last month there was a collision between two freighters at Pierson Bay. One limped back to port. The other is on the bottom and a menace to navigation. I got the contract to get rid of that boat. It's a simple job. All you have to do is go down and plant a charge with a delayed time fuse. Then come to the surface. For this you'll get $125.00."

"Not interested," insisted Bill, "You can get Mike Trager to do the job."

"That's just the trouble," admitted Captain Reid. "Mike was going to do the job for me. But he had a head on collision with a truck. He's going to spend the next two weeks in the hospital. I'm in a tight spot. If I don't carry out my contract by tomorrow I forfeit a bond of two thousand dollars."

There was a look of sympathy on Bill's face. He could understand the situation. And he would always be under an obligation to the man who saved his life.

"Tell you what I'll do," he finally suggested. "Helen is in the kitchen with mother. You convince the future Mrs. Merkl and I'll do that job for you. Anyway it's about time you met her."

Bill was diplomatic in the way he made the introduction. With a smile on his face he said, "Meet the man who was my skipper when we fought the Japs. Saved my life when our landing craft crashed on a rock. Honey, Henry is in a tight spot. Wants me to do a simple diving job for him out in Pierson Bay. Not deep diving because the boat on the bottom is just a mere hundred feet or so from the surface."

Helen Loeb knew she was caught. She would have to give her consent. But being a woman she decided to have the last word.

"I hate water and diving," she told Captain Reid. "Makes me shudder when I think of the risk he takes every time he puts on his helmet and goes down below the surface. But he can do this one job for you. Only on condition that I go on the tug also."

To himself, Captain Reid thought: A man that loves the water shouldn't get hitched up with a female that probably gets seasick when she looks at a glass of water. Sure, I'll take her along on the tug. If she were alone then I would want rough water. But for Bill's sake I hope everything is calm."

The next day the tugboat MARIE made the short run to the south side of Pierson Bay. A marker was on the spot to indicate where the wrecked boat was resting on the bottom of the bay. Jess Freeman was in charge of the air pump aboard the tugboat. Captain Reid helped Bill into his suit. Before he shut the helmet, Helen gave her future husband a big kiss and some advice.

"Don't stay down too long. They say you can get the bends. And remember we have a date with the Hendersons for supper."

Bill went slowly overboard and then downward. He reached the bottom without any trouble and saw the wrecked boat.

"Big hole in the hull," he said over the phone. "I can plant the charge inside. Set the time fuse to go off in two and a half hours. Are you sure the harbor patrol has notified all boats to stay away from here?"

"The coast guard gave the clearance on this job," came over the phone. "We'll send the charge down in ten minutes. Then as soon as you plant it give me the signal. We'll pull you up."

George Downey was the explosive expert aboard the tugboat. He went quickly to work and set the time fuse in the charge. Then he carefully dropped the metal container overboard. It was guided to the bottom by a rope.

"Tell Bill the charge is coming down," shouted Downey. "I set it exactly as requested."

Bill spotted the metal container and removed it from the guide rope. Then he lifted it and moved it inside the hull of the wrecked ship. His spotlight showed him a place near some-

thing that looked like a motor. There he planted the explosive and turned around to leave. Suddenly he found himself being forced to the bottom of the ship. He managed to focus his spotlight. A heavy piece of metal had twisted around his air line. He tried to reach for it but found he couldn't make it. Nor could he get to his feet.

"I'm trapped down here," he said over the phone. "Something fell on my air line and twisted around it. I' getting air. No danger."

"What do you mean no danger?" said the excited voice of Captain Reid over the phone. "You have a time charge on that explosive. Can you reach it?"

"Can't touch it," were Bill's sad words. "Get another driver to come down and untwist me. It gives me the creeps to realize how helpless I am down in this sunken boat."

Beads of perspiration formed on the forehead of Captain Reid. His Adams apple moved up and down several times before he could explain the terrible situation to Helen. She grasped the danger at once.

"By the time you get another boat here with a diver and set him up that charge will explode. Contact the coast guard at once. Tell them to send a helicopter over us and drop a complete skin diver's outfit. I was champ skin diver on the west coast last year. I'll get Bill out of his peril," said Helen.

Lieutenant Mark Shaw, of the coast guard, went into action as soon as he got the emergency message. Twenty-three minutes later a helicopter hovered over the tugboat and dropped the required materials. Then Helen got into her outfit and the oxygen tanks were strapped to her back. Before she inserted the mouth piece she explained her strategy.

"I'll do my best to see if I can move the obstacle around Bill's air line. If not, then I will try to pull it around. Play out all the air line you have. And I'll go down with a crowbar. First thing I will do is attach the explosive to a line so you can bring it up to the surface and remove the time fuse."

Three coast guard boats were busy keeping all craft away from the danger spot. It seems that the radio message had been heard by other boats and they were hurrying to the scene. For there is something in the nature of a rescue that appeals to all of us.

Helen had been under water twenty minutes when Bill spoke over the phone.

"The big motor down here shifted and is covering the explosive. Helen can't send it up. Watch the time up there. If she can't free me in twenty more minutes then I am going to take a chance. I'll cut my air line and see if I can make surface."

"You'll never make it," answered Captain Reid. "We can move the tugboat about seventy feet from where you are. That's the maximum we can play out your extra air line. We'll stick with you. You got to make it. After all I want to go to your wedding."

Helen worked frantically to push some of the line under the obstacle. Finally she managed to move about twenty feet. That was enough to permit Bill to stand up. Now he was able to work side by side with his girl. They were unable to speak to each other. Yet they knew what had to be done to beat that time fuse.

Up on the deck of the tugboat, George Downey looked continually at his watch. He saw those precious seconds tick off his watch.

"If there were only someway to make time stand still," he sighed. "It might solve everything. Twenty-seven minutes left for that time fuse to set off the explosive. Then what?"

Captain Henry looked at Jess Freeman. The air pump was still sending down its life sustaining charges.

"Anything we can do?"

There was no answer to that question. Then a minute later Bill's voice came over the phone.

"Helen just freed me. Start pulling me up. Quickly or we haven't got a chance. Start your motor on the tugboat and begin pulling up your anchor.

"But you'll get the bends," warned Captain Henry.

"If you don't listen to me, you big fool, you I be blown to kingdom come. You can rush me to a decompression chamber."

Helen came to the surface with Bill and the tugboat started away at full speed as soon as they were aboard. The coast guard helicoper picked Bill up from the tugboat deck and headed for shore. From there a speeding ambulance took him to the decompression chamber. He was inside two hours. Then a physician checked him.

"O.K. You'll need a week's good rest in the country."

They were late for dinner with the Hender sons. Janice Henderson asked the natural question.

"Anything important delay you two?"

The answer was the understatement of the year: "Nothing much."

THE END

DAVID COLE, WAS ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE WHO THINK THE WORLD OWES THEM A LIVING. BUT THE INHERITANCE ON WHICH HE LIVED IN IDLENESS HAD DWINDLED TO A THOUSAND DOLLARS! THEN HE LEARNED OF---

# CAPTAIN HAWK'S TREASURE

AHOY THERE! AHOY! MAKE WAY FOR CAPTAIN HAWK! TYIN' UP ALONGSIDE YE!

CAPTAIN HAWK! THAT'S THE FAMOUS PIRATE! WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT? AM I CRAZY OR SOMETHING?

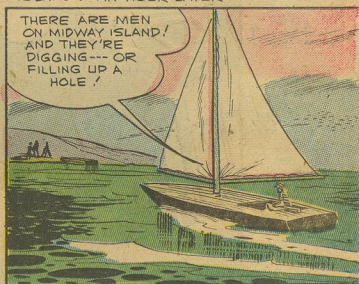
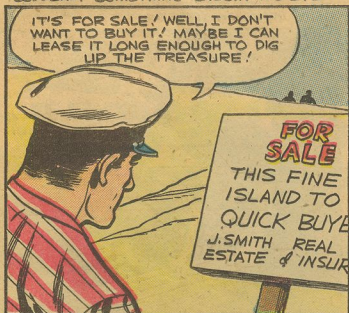
S657

THERE WAS A GOOD OFFSHORE BREEZE THE SUMMER AFTERNOON DAVID COLE SET OUT TO SAIL THE BAY----

BUT COLE HAD OTHER THINGS ON HIS MIND--- HE WANTED TO GET OUT BY HIMSELF WHERE HE COULD THINK---

COLE WAS SO AGHAST AT THE IDEA OF HAVING TO GET A JOB, THAT AT FIRST HE DIDN'T NOTICE THE STRANGE THING COMING OUT OF THE DISTANCE! THEN--

BUT THE VISION DIDN'T PASS, THE OLD BRIG ANCHORED AND A SKIFF PUT OUT TOWARD HIM----

THE VISION DISAPPEARED. DAVE PLACED THE BOW OF HIS BOAT TOWARD THE ISLAND! AN HOUR LATER---

SUDDENLY SOMETHING CAUGHT HIS EYE---

COLE SAILED HIS BOAT OUTWARD, AND SAW THE MEN DEPART! THEN HE HEADED BACK. HE FOUND THE REAL ESTATE MAN---

IT WAS A HARD DECISION TO MAKE, BUT DAVID COLE HAD TO BELIEVE IN THE VISION! HE TOOK THE OPTION! NOW THE ISLAND WAS HIS, FOR SIX MONTHS, ANYWAY---

HE WORKED FOR HOURS, HARDER THAN HE HAD EVER WORKED BEFORE--

WITH TREMBLING FINGERS, COLE DREW HIS FLASHLIGHT AND KNELT IN THE HOLE HE DUG!

AND SO, IN SPITE OF VISIONS, DAVID COLE FOUND IT NECESSARY TO GO TO WORK! IT HAS BEEN SAID OF HIM OF LATE, THAT HE IS HAPPIER THAN HE HAS EVER BEEN IN HIS LIFE!

— THE END

WELL KNOWN FACT THAT HEART OF MAN WHO LIVES ONLY FOR REVENGE, WILL TURN TO STONE ... BUT MUCH MYSTIFICATION WHEN VENGEFUL PERSON SEEMS...

# MADE OF WAX

WAX MUSEUM

GANGSTER RUB OUT

S421

ARE WE DREAMING, POP? HOW COULD A WAX STATUE SHOOT ANYBODY?

HE WHO JUMPS TO CONCLUSIONS, HAS BETTER CHANCE OF BREAKING NECK THAN OF LEARNING TRUTH! PISTOL IN STATUE'S HAND MUST HAVE BEEN PLACED THERE BY...
I... I FEEL SICK!

HUMBLY REQUEST IDENTITY OF MAN WHO FAINTED!
HE'S JESS MILLER-- OWNS THIS WAX MUSEUM CONCESSION! JESS NEVER COULD STAND ROUGH STUFF!

SO HAPPY YOU FEEL BETTER NOW! SORRY, BUT MUST ASK YOU FEW QUESTIONS! YOU KNOW PERHAPS THE MAN WHO WAS SHOT?
NEVER SAW HIM BEFORE IN MY LIFE!

HMMM... KILLER HAD SPECIAL REASON FOR PLACING PISTOL IN WAX STATUE'S HAND! PERHAPS TWISTED SENSE OF HUMOR! PERHAPS TWISTED SENSE OF VENGEANCE!

YOU'RE TALKING IN RIDDLES, POP!
SIMPLE STATEMENTS SOUND LIKE RIDDLES TO HE WHO LISTENS WITH ONLY HALF-A-BRAIN! PLEASE, MR. MILLER, CAN YOU TELL ME IF STATUE IS LIKENESS OF ANYONE IN PARTICULAR?

N-NOT THAT I KNOW OF! IT'S JUST A GANGSTER OF THE OLD DAYS!
SO SORRY TO BE PERSISTENT--BUT CAN YOU GIVE ME NAME OF SCULPTOR WHO MADE STATUE? HE MIGHT HAVE MOST INTERESTING STORY TO TELL!

LATER...
HERE'S THE SCULPTOR'S PLACE AT LAST! WE SURE CAME THE LONG WAY!
IF LONG JOURNEY TELLS US WHAT WE NEED TO KNOW, NO COMPLAINT WILL BE HEARD FROM THIS HUMBLE SEEKER OF THE TRUTH!

CREEPY JOINT, ISN'T IT, POP? AND NOBODY ANSWERS THE BELL!
DOOR SEEMS AJAR! SUGGEST WE WALK IN!

POP, LOOK!
THE KILLER WAS HERE BEFORE US! HE STRUCK BEFORE WE COULD LEARN WHOSE LIKENESS IS MIRRORED IN WAX STATUE'S FACE!

THE NEXT MORNING, IN CHANG'S OFFICE...
POLICE MOST KIND TO LEND US MOST LIKELY SUSPECT! SIT HERE, PLEASE, WHERE LIGHT IS BRIGHTEST! AND BE CAREFUL OF LOOSE FLOORING SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN REPAIRED BY IDIOT OFFSPRING TWO YEARS AGO!

WATCH THE BIRDIE...
ILLUSTRIOUS NUMBER ONE SON HAS SENSE OF HUMOR COMPRISED OF VAST QUANTITY OF CORN! AS SOON AS PICTURE DEVELOPED, RADIO IT TO POLICE ALL OVER COUNTRY! I GO NOW TO WAX MUSEUM!

HI, MR. CHANG! ANYTHING NEW?
SORRY TO SAY NOT YET! PLEASE, MAY I WALK ABOUT? SOMETIMES, AFTER DAY HAS PASSED, EYE IS REFRESHED, AND CLUES ARE FOUND THAT HAD BEEN OVERLOOKED!

I SEE OUTLINE AS OF PICTURE ONCE HANGING ABOVE! EXCUSE CURIOSITY, BUT-- EXPLAIN, PLEASE!
THAT? I'M A PIN-UP FAN! BUT AFTER WHAT HAPPENED-- THE DEATH, I MEAN, SORT OF OUT OF RESPECT I TOOK IT DOWN!

LATER...
POP, I GOT A REPORT ON THE STATUE! CHICAGO POLICE SAY IT CHECKS WITH A ROGUE'S GALLERY SHOT OF FRANK DARNELL WHO WAS RUBBED OUT IN A GANG WAR TEN YEARS AGO!
MOST INTERESTING-- ESPECIALLY SINCE EARLIER REPORT ON MAN RUBBED OUT IN MUSEUM...

...TELLS US HE WAS GANGSTER IN CHICAGO TOO! DID THEY GIVE YOU MORE FACTS ABOUT MAN WHO RESEMBLED STATUE?

HERE IT IS, POP! JUST ROUTINE STUFF!
NOT TOO MUCH HELP! NEED ONE MORE FACT FOR FINAL PIECE OF PUZZLE! I MUST MAKE LONG-DISTANCE CALL...

FIFTEEN MINUTES LATER, THE PHONE RINGS IN THE OFFICE OF THE GOLDMAN PRIVATE INVESTIGATION AGENCY IN CHICAGO...
GOLDMAN SPEAKING! WHO? LUM CHANG, HOW ARE YOU, PAL? YOU NEED A FAVOR? SURE, JUST LET ME GRAB A PENCIL...
4

HOW LONG CAN YOU JUST SIT THERE, POP?
WOULD IMPETUOUS OFF-SPRING HAVE ME DO PUSH-UPS ON FLOOR WHILE WAITING FOR PHONE TO RING?

RING!

YES? YES? MOST GRATEFUL, SYD GOLDMAN! ANYTIME THIS HUMBLE ORIENTAL CAN BE OF SERVICE TO YOU, WILL LEAP AT CHANCE LIKE FROG'S TONGUE AT FLY!

WHAT DID HE TELL YOU, POP?
WHAT I NEEDED TO KNOW TO LEARN TRUTH! AND TRUTH VERY STRANGE! THIS IS FIRST TIME THAT SCENE OF CRIME HAS RETURNED TO MURDERER, INSTEAD OF VISA VERSA!

YOU HIT THE NAIL ON THE HEAD, CHANG -- BUT IT'S NOT GOING TO HELP YOU ANY...
JESS MILLER, THE BARKER!

MY BROTHER WAS MOWED DOWN IN A GANG WAR! I NEVER COULD STAND ROUGH STUFF... I GOT SO WORKED UP, I SWORE I'D GET HIS KILLER! BUT IT WAS LIKE FINDING A NEEDLE IN A HAY-STACK... THAT'S WHY I DREAMED UP THE WAX STATUE GIMMICK...

...I'D ALWAYS RUN THE MUSEUM--SO IT WAS EASY TO HAVE A STATUE MADE OF MY BROTHER, AND SET IT UP IN A STREET SCENE THAT WAS EXACTLY LIKE WHERE HE WAS KILLED! I FIGURED IF I KEPT TRAVELLING ALL OVER THE COUNTRY WITH THAT SCENE...

...SOMEDAY, THE KILLER WOULD DROP IN, AND HE'D DO A DOUBLE-TAKE WHEN HE SAW IT! AND I KEPT WATCH FOR TEN LONG YEARS ON EVERYBODY WHO CAME INTO THE MUSEUM! I WATCHED THEM THROUGH AN ANGLED MIRROR OVER THE TOP OF MY BARKER'S STAND--WHERE I TOLD YOU I'D HAD A PIN-UP--AND THEN AT LAST, I SPOTTED HIM...

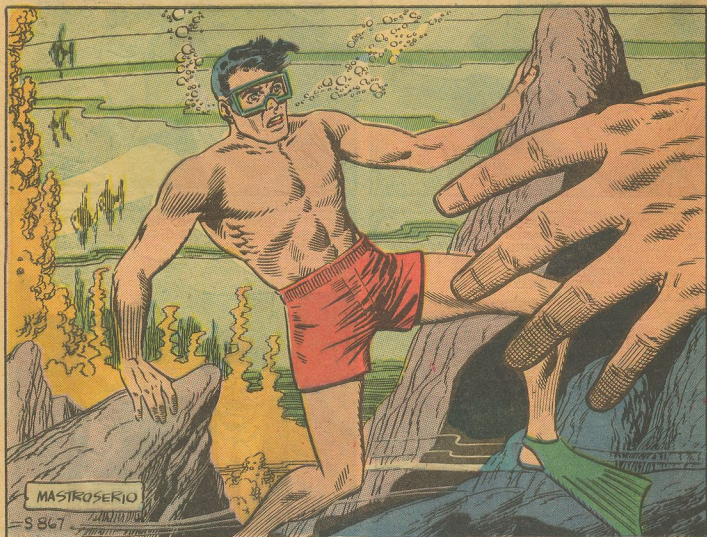
...I HAD IT ALL PLANNED PERFECT! I RAN IN, SHOT HIM WITH A SILENCER, JAMMED THE GUN INTO THE STATUE'S HAND, AND WAS OUTSIDE WHEN A TIMED FIRECRACKER WENT OFF THAT SOUNDED LIKE A SHOT!

MOST INGENIOUS! AND THEN YOU SHOT SCULPTOR SO HE COULD NOT TELL STATUE WAS OF YOUR BROTHER!
YOU THINK FAST, CHANG--BUT NOT FOR LONG! STAND STILL...

HEY...
I GOT HIM, POP!

THAT WAS FAST THINKING, POP, LEADING HIM OVER THAT LOOSE FLOORING SO HE'D JAR THE STATUE!
WELL KNOWN FACT THAT HEART OF MAN WHO LIVES ONLY FOR REVENGE, WILL TURN TO STONE... BUT JUSTICE CAN BE AS HARD AS STONE TOO WHEN MISDEED BAD ENOUGH! SECOND FACT GENERALLY LEARNED TOO LATE--SUCH A PITY!
END

# UNDER The REEF

SOMETHING WAS STIRRING DOWN THERE UNDER THE REEF... AN ENORMOUS, FANTASTIC SOMETHING....

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SO WHAT ? THAT ONLY CLINCHES IT! IF THE NATIVES NEVER DIVE HERE, THE OYSTER BEDS HAVEN'T BEEN WORKED OVER! I'M GOING DOWN!

SEE YOU, CHICKEN!

HOW AN OLD LEVEL-HEAD LIKE JOE COULD SWALLOW THAT BUNK ABOUT THIS REEF BEING OFF LIMITS IS MORE THAN I...

...COULD FIGURE OUT!

UH, OH, WHAT'S THIS ? A VERTICAL SHAFT IN THE REEF! HMM... THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT WHERE IT LEADS TO..

WHEW! NEVER BEEN THIS FAR DOWN BEFORE!

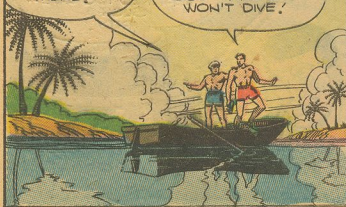
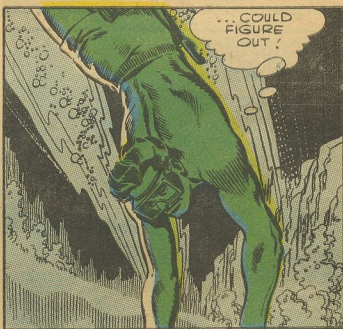
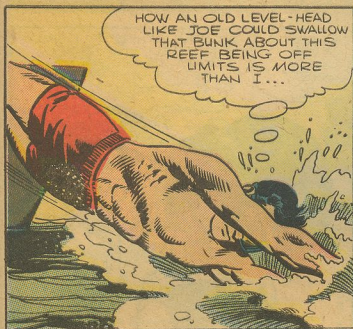
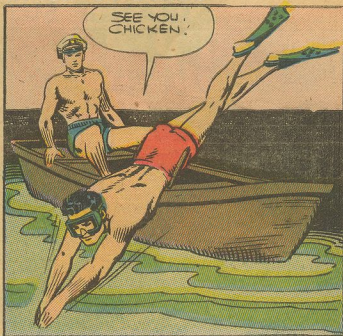
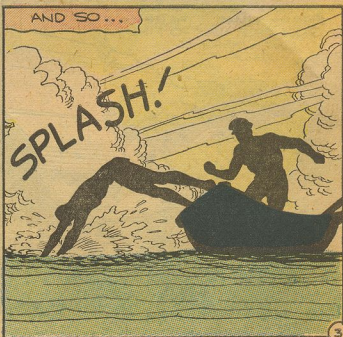
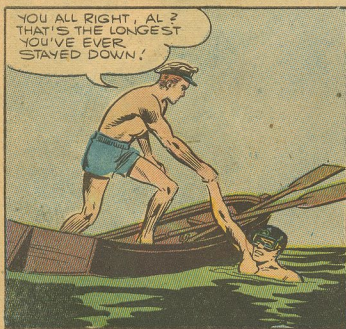
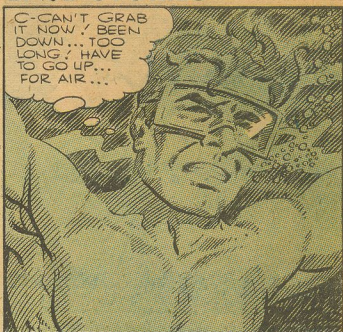
HEY -- GET A LOAD OF THAT PEARL! IT'S AS BIG AS A BASEBALL!

C-CAN'T GRAB IT NOW! BEEN DOWN... TOO LONG! HAVE TO GO UP... FOR AIR...

YOU ALL RIGHT, AL? THAT'S THE LONGEST YOU'VE EVER STAYED DOWN!

YEAH -- I'M ALL RIGHT!
YOU'LL THINK I'M CRAZY IF I TELL YOU ABOUT THAT PEARL PAL! I BETTER WAIT AND SHOW IT TO YOU!!

YOU LOOK BEAT, AL! HOW ABOUT STRETCHING OUT AND TAKING IT EASY WHILE I ROW IN?
WE'RE (GRASP) STAYING RIGHT HERE! AND WHEN I CATCH MY BREATH, I'M DIVING AGAIN!

AND SO...
SPLASH!

Reducing Specialist Says:

# LOSE WEIGHT Where It Shows Most REDUCE MOST ANY PART OF THE BODY WITH

Connie Simmons, New York City, N. Y., says: "I went from size 16 dress to a size 12 with the use of the Spot Reducer. I am glad I used it."

# Spot Reducer

**Relaxing · Soothing Penetrating Massage**

## Don't Stay FAT

LIKE a magic wand, the "Spot Reducer" obeys your every wish. Most any part of your body where it is loose and flabby, wherever you have extra weight and inches, the "Spot Reducer" can aid you in acquiring a youthful, slender and graceful figure. The beauty of this scientifically designed Reducer is that the method is so simple and easy, the results quick, sure and harmless. No exercises or strict diets. No steambaths, drugs or laxatives.

With the SPOT REDUCER you can now enjoy the benefits of RELAXING, SOOTHING massage in the privacy of your own home! Simple to use—just plug in, grasp handle and apply over most any part of the body—stomach, hips, chest, neck, thighs, arms, buttocks, etc. The relaxing, soothing massage breaks down FATTY TISSUES, tones muscles and flesh, and the increased awakened blood circulation carries away waste fat—helps you repair and keep a firmer and more GRACEFUL FIGURE!

Marie Hammel, New York, N. Y., says: "I used to wear a size 20 dress, now I wear size 14, thanks to the Spot Reducer. It was fun and I enjoyed it."

### YOUR OWN PRIVATE MASSEUR AT HOME

When you use the SPOT REDUCER, it's almost like having your own private masseur at home. It's fun reducing this way! It not only helps you reduce and keep slim—but also aids in the relief of those types of aches and pains—and tired nerves that can be helped by massage!

**TAKE OFF UGLY FAT!**
Don't Stay FAT — You Can LOSE POUNDS and INCHES SAFELY without risking HEALTH

**FREE** A large size jar of Special Formula Body Massage Cream will be included FREE with your order for the "Spot Reducer."

### ALSO USE IT FOR ACHES AND PAINS

**CAN'T SLEEP:** Relax with electric Spot Reducer. See how soothing its gentle massage can be. Helps you sleep when massage can be of benefit.

**MUSCULAR ACHES:** A handy helper for transient relief of discomforts that can be aided by gentle, relaxing massage.

"Thanks to the Spot Reducer I lost four inches around the hips and three inches around the waistline. It's amazing." Mary Martin, Long Island City, N. Y.

TRY THE SPOT REDUCER 10 DAYS FREE IN YOUR OWN HOME!

**MONEY BACK GUARANTEE with a 10-DAY FREE TRIAL**

If the "Spot Reducer" doesn't do the wonders for you as it has for others, if you don't lose weight and inches where you want to lose it most, if you're not 100% delighted with the results, your money will be returned at once.

**SENT ON APPROVAL—MAIL COUPON NOW!**

Body Massagers, Dept. A-211,
318 Market St., Newark, New Jersey.

Send me at once, for $2 cash, check or money order, the "Spot Reducer" and your famous Special Formula Body Massage Cream, postpaid. If I am not 100% satisfied, my money will be refunded.

☐ I enclose $2.98, send amazing De Luxe Model.

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**FREE SMCA Membership Card** Your Bonomo Power course entitles you to Free membership in the Strongman's Club of America.

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Okay, Joe! Rush me your famous 96 page Cable Course and include FREE your "Black Beauty" 3-Cable Exerciser plus membership in the SMCA—no dues, no fees. If I am not 100% satisfied, in any way, I can return within 30 days for full refund.

☐ I enclose $2.98 in full. Ship prepaid. ☐ Ship C.O.D. for $2.98 plus postage.

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Name ________________ Age ______

Address ________________ Weight ______

City ________ Zone ____ State ________ Height ______

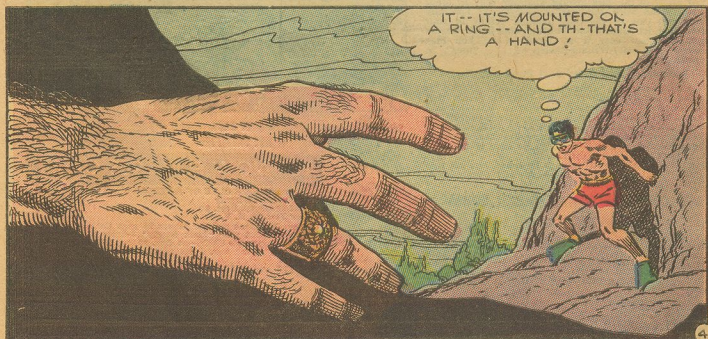
Foreign & APO's (Except Canada) $3.98 with payment in full.

CAN'T BUDGE IT! MUST BE CAUGHT IN THE SEA-WEED! HAVE TO USE MY KNIFE!

HEY, THIS IS METAL! IT'S SHAPED LIKE SEAWEED!

GOT ONE HUNK OFF! I'LL TUCK IT HERE!

TH-THE PEARL'S MOVING!

IT--IT'S MOUNTED ON A RING--AND TH-THAT'S A HAND!

NEPTUNE'S HAND! HE WAS SLEEPING DOWN HERE! I WOKE HIM UP!

HE'S REACHING FOR ME-- CAN'T TELL IF HE'S SORE, OR...

THAT'S WHEN AL BLACKS OUT! WHEN HE NEXT OPENS HIS EYES...
WH-WHERE AM I?
I SPOTTED YOU COMING UP AND I PULLED YOU IN! YOU WERE IN BAD SHAPE! YOU'VE BEEN MOANING ABOUT A PEARL AS BIG AS A BASEBALL!

YEAH--THE PEARL! I MUST'VE STAYED DOWN TOO LONG! IT MADE ME START SEEING THINGS!
JUST TELL ME WHERE TO LOOK! I'LL BRING THAT PEARL UP!

BUT JUST THEN...
THE HUNK OF MOUNTING! THAT MEANS THE RING WAS REAL! THE HAND WAS REAL! AND...

AL! WHERE DO I LOOK FOR THAT PEARL?
THERE'S ONLY ONE DIRECTION, JOE--AND THAT'S... DON'T DIVE HERE!
END

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Rush your name and address on coupon and we ship AT ONCE PREPAID your first set of 24 Mottos ON TRUST. When you have sold the 24 Mottos, send the $8.40 you have collected and you can secure your choice of many wonderful prizes. If you prefer to EARN MONEY, send $6.00 and keep $2.40. Hurry. send TODAY for 24 Mottos ON TRUST and big PRIZE CATALOG FREE
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EXTRA! Sell mottos and send payment within 15 days, and I'll give you free a year's Membership in the FUNman's Fun Club. Membership card, certificate, secret code, giant packet of fun materials all yours—plus extra surprises!
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Please rush to me on 15 days credit 24 Religious Wall Mottos, to sell at 35c each. Also include big Prize Catalog FREE. I will remit amount required as explained in BIG PRIZE CATALOG within 30 days and select the prize, I want or keep a cash commission as explained. INCLUDE DETAILS OF HOW I MAY WIN THE EXTRA BIG PRIZES.
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